

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, UN, AO, SF
SUBJECT: UN APARTHEID COMMITTEE STATEMENT

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF FEBRUARY 24 STATEMENT BY CHAIRMAN OF
UN APARTHEID COMMITTEE HARRIMAN (NIGERIA).

QUOTE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE AGAINST APARTHEID,
LESLIE O. HARRIMAN (NIGERIA), ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT
TODAY:

"MY ATTENTION HAS BEEN DRAWN TO A HIGHLY BOASTFUL ACCOUNT,
RELEASED BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS ON 3
FEBRUARY 1977, OF SOUTH AFRICA'S CRIMINAL ADVENTURE IN ANGOLA
IN 1975-1976.

"THE APARTHEID REGIME HAS NOW PUBLICLY CONFESSED THAT AFTER
A SERIES OF INCURSIONS INTO SOUTHERN ANGOLA, IT HAD SENT AN
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OFFICER TO THE NATIONAL UNION FOR THE TOTAL INDEPENDENCE OF
ANGOLA (UNITA) HEADQUARTERS, AS EARLY AS 24 SEPTEMBER 1975,
TO PLAN OPERATIONS AGAINST THE PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT FOR THE
LIBERATION OF ANGOLA (MPLA). EIGHTEEN INSTRUCTORS AND
MILITARY EQUIPMENT WERE SENT SOON AFTER AND THE SOUTH AFRICANS
ACCOMPANIED UNITA FORCES IN CLASHES WITH MPLA FORCES BETWEEN
LOBITO AND NOVA LISBOA. IN MID-OCTOBER, A SQUADRON OF ARMoured

CARS AND CREWS WERE SENT TO SILVA PORTO AND FORMED A SPECIAL COMBAT GROUP. THIS GROUP PARTICIPATED IN ATTACKS ON PEREIRA DECA, ROCADOS, JOAO DE ALMEIDA, SA DA BANDEIRA AND MOCAMEDES BETWEEN 19 AND 28 OCTOBER. THEY THEN ADVANCED TO BENGUELA AND LOBITO. IT WAS ONLY ON 4 NOVEMBER THAT THEY OBSERVED SIGNS OF ANY PRESENCE OF CUBAN PERSONNEL, NAMELY, INSTRUCTORS AT AN MPLA TRAINING CAMP NEAR BENGUELA.

"SOUTH AFRICA ALSO SENT A SENIOR OFFICER TO THE HEADQUARTERS OF MR. HOLDEN ROBERTO, THE NATIONAL FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF ANGOLA (FNLA) LEADER.

"I MAY RECALL THAT THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE AGAINST APARTHEID CONSTANTLY DENOUNCED THE AGGRESSION BY THE APARTHEID REGIME AGAINST ANGOLA FROM SEPTEMBER 1975 WHEN IT BECAME AWARE OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN INCURSIONS. AT THAT TIME, A NUMBER OF WESTERN POWERS FEIGNED IGNORANCE OF SOUTH AFRICAN INTERVENTION AND SPREAD SOUTH AFRICAN PROPAGANDA OF MASSIVE CUBAN INTERVENTION AS AN EXCUSE FOR INACTION.

"I HOPE THAT THE RECENT CONFESSIONS BY THE APARTHEID REGIME WILL HELP TO PERSUADE THEM THAT IT IS A CRIMINAL AND AGGRESSIVE REGIME AND A CONSTANT THREAT TO PEACE. EFFECTIVE ACTION MUST BE TAKEN, UNDER CHAPTER VII OF THE CHARTER, TO CURB THIS REGIME WHICH CONTINUES TO COMMIT ACTS OF AGGRESSION AGAINST ANGOLA AND OTHER NEIGHBOURING STATES AND HAS DECLARED A VIRTUAL STATE OF WAR WITHIN SOUTH AFRICA ITSELF." UNQUOTE
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Comment:
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